

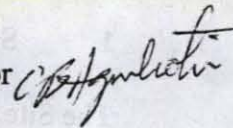
**U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT**

I. HEADING

Date: February 18, 2000

Subject: Monroe Township Groundwater Contamination Site, Williamstown,
Gloucester County, New Jersey

From: Chaitanya Agnihotri, On-Scene Coordinator
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Removal Action Branch



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	START	

POLREP NO.: 3 (Covers period from 12/31/99 to 01/28/00)

II. BACKGROUND

Site No.:	MQ
Delivery Order Number:	003 (ERRS Contract No. 68-S2-99-07)
Response Authority:	CERCLA
NPL Status:	Non-NPL
CERCLIS Number:	NJD98079699
Action Memo Status:	Action Memo approved December 6, 1999
Start Date:	September 21, 1999
Demobilization Date:	
Completion Date:	

III. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Incident Category

CERCLA incident category: Area-Wide Groundwater Contamination

B. Site Description

1. Site Location

The Site is located in the town of Williamstown, in the Township of Monroe, and consists of properties which use private wells as a source of potable water. The affected properties are located in three areas identified as the Winslow Road Area (including properties on Winslow Road and Maple Street); the Tuckahoe Road Area (consisting of properties on Tuckahoe Road, Sykes Lane and Glassboro Road) and the Black Horse Pike Area (including properties on Black Horse Pike).

2. Description of Threat

EPA became aware of groundwater contamination of private wells in Monroe Township while evaluating groundwater contamination associated with the Township's municipal supply wells. During EPA's evaluation of these municipal wells, the Agency obtained groundwater sampling data from the Gloucester County Health Department (GCHD), which indicated that certain private wells in the Township were contaminated with PCE. In addition, based on discussions with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), EPA became aware of groundwater contamination problems in the Township that were associated with Mercury.

C. Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection Results

In cooperation with both the NJDEP and the GCHD, EPA selected three areas of Monroe in which to perform tap water sampling of private wells. This sampling was performed in order to assess whether the site could be eligible for a removal action, and to determine whether the Site should be proposed for inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL). These areas were determined based on the locations of previously known elevated concentrations of PCE, and included properties in the areas of the Black Horse Pike, Winslow Road, and the area located in the vicinity of the intersection of Tuckahoe Road with Glassboro Road. The tap water sampling event was performed in July 1999, with approximately 100 homes being sampled. Of these 100 homes, it was found that 29 properties exceeded the federal maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) and removal action levels (RALs) for PCE, Benzene, Mercury, Thallium, Copper, and Lead.

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

1. Current Situation

As described above, EPA determined that there were 29 properties at which the tap water exceeded the RALs and MCLs for PCE, Benzene, Mercury, Thallium, Copper, and Lead. A summary of these exceedances is provided in the following table:

Monroe Township Groundwater Contamination Site

MAXIMUM CONCENTRATIONS OF CONTAMINANTS FOUND IN RESIDENTIAL WELLS (ppb)		EPA RAL (ppb)	EPA MCL (ppb)
PCE	1,500	70	5
Benzene	470	100	5
Mercury	19.9	10	2
Copper	3,260	1,300	TT*
Lead	62.6	30	TT*
Thallium	4.0	2	2

* TT - Treatment Technique, as per the Safe Drinking Water Act.

2. Removal Actions to Date

EPA has continued providing bottled water to the homeowners of affected homes. The EPA's Emergency Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractor (WRSI&E) obtained the services of Shockey's Water Treatment System Company to install point of entry treatment systems (POETs) at the 15 impacted residences. These treatment systems were installed on November 29 and 30, and December 7 and 13, 1999.

WRSI&E also collected samples from the residences which had POET treatment systems installed. These samples were collected on November 30 and December 1 and 8, 1999 and December 20 and 21, 1999.

The data was reviewed, and letters were submitted to each homeowner with the results from the sampling events. The results indicated that all the water was being treated to below the New Jersey State Action Levels. Therefore, based on these results, EPA stopped providing bottled to fourteen of these residences (one is still being provided bottled water due to lead contamination).

The following are the dates the letters were submitted to the residences:

<u>Address</u>	<u>Date Results Submitted to the Homeowner</u>
2990 South Black Horse Pike	January 27, 2000
2998 South Black Horse Pike	January 21, 2000
3042 South Black Horse Pike	January 21, 2000
3132 South Black Horse Pike	January 27, 2000
3172 South Black Horse Pike	January 27, 2000
3235 South Black Horse Pike	January 21, 2000
3331 South Black Horse Pike	January 21, 2000
3339 South Black Horse Pike	January 27, 2000
3345 South Black Horse Pike	January 21, 2000
3370 South Black Horse Pike	January 21, 2000
3524 South Black Horse Pike	January 21, 2000
647 Tuckahoe Road	January 27, 2000
607 Winslow Road	January 21, 2000
616 Winslow Road	January 21, 2000
Maple Street	January 27, 2000

Additionally, EPA's Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) contractor completed sampling activities at residences where the previous results indicated a possible thallium contamination. These residences were:

- 761 Tuckahoe Road (before and after the existing filter system)
- 1145 Tuckahoe Road
- 816 Glassboro Road (before and after the existing treatment system)
- 3497 South Black Horse Pike
- 3524 South Black Horse Pike

On October 21, 1999, the groundwater from these five residences were resampled and analyzed for thallium at a 1.84 part per billion (PPB) detection limit. The results from these samples indicated the thallium was not detected at this detection limit. Based on these results, three of the five residences are no longer provided bottled water. The two residences on South Black Horse Pike were provided bottled water until additional investigations were completed concerning mercury contamination.

Additionally, EPA's START contractor completed sampling activities at residences which contained elevated concentrations of lead and copper based on previous results to determine the source of these contaminants (i.e., whether the source is the residential plumbing). These residences were:

768 Tuckahoe Road
1132 Tuckahoe Road
1153 Tuckahoe Road
1203 Tuckahoe Road (before and after the existing treatment system)
3331 South Black Horse Pike
3370 South Black Horse Pike
969 Sykes Lane (before and after the existing treatment system)
1031 Sykes Lane
430 Winslow Road
465 Winslow Road

On November 9 and 10, 1999, START resampled the groundwater from these five residences, and the water was analyzed for lead. Based on the results, EPA stopped providing bottled water to the residents at 969 Sykes Lane and 1031 Sykes Lane. EPA will continue to provide bottled water to the other residences until additional investigations are completed.

On December 7, 1999, START collected two groundwater samples for copper and mercury analysis from the residence at 3430 South Black Horse Pike. The results indicate the groundwater is not contaminated with copper or mercury. Therefore, EPA stopped providing bottled water to the residence.

3. Enforcement

No Federal enforcement action is in progress at this time. Should a responsible party or parties be identified and be willing to undertake a timely and appropriate removal action, then EPA will evaluate its options with regard to enforcement.

B. Planned Removal Activities

The planned removal activities consist of ensuring that the POET treatment systems are operating properly. EPA will conduct quarterly sampling activities to verify the proper operation of the POET treatment systems and that the treatment criteria for the contaminants of concern are in compliance. Based on the November and December 1999 sampling results, EPA has stopped providing bottled water to those residences with properly operating treatment systems.

Also, bottled water will continue to be provided to properties where the MCLs and RALs for lead are exceeded, until such time that EPA can determine the sources of this contamination.

Additionally, in March 2000 quarterly sampling will be completed by the ERRS Contractor (WRSI&E). This sampling will be completed at the 15 residences where point of entry treatment systems (POETS) were installed. This sampling is being completed to verify breakthrough is not occurring through the KDF-55 units or GAC units. If there is breakthrough, the KDF-55 or GAC units will be changed out with new treatment media. The systems will be monitored and maintained, including periodic sampling of the water to assure proper functioning.

Through the use of START, EPA will also be performing sampling of additional homes in Williamstown, to better refine the nature and extent of the groundwater contamination. The data from the January 10 to 15, 2000 sampling event will be reviewed, and if any wells are contaminated with organics or inorganics, additional POET treatment systems may be installed by WRSI&E.

C. Next Steps

The next activities include the quarterly sampling of the water being treated at the 15 residences. This will occur in mid to late March 2000. The OSC and the Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractor will mobilize to the site to collect the samples with START personnel monitoring the sampling event.

D. Key Issues

There were no key issues during the reporting period covered by this Pollution Report.

V. COST INFORMATION (to 01/28/00)

	AMOUNT BUDGETED	COSTS TO DATE (rounded)	AMOUNT REMAINING
ERRS costs	\$ 165,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 135,000
START costs	\$ 12,500	\$ 9,000	\$ 3,500
START contingency	\$ 35,500	\$ 0	\$ 35,500
EPA costs	\$ 34,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 25,000
Total	\$ 247,000	\$ 48,000	\$ 199,000

Percent of the total project ceiling - 19.4 %

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSCs at the time this report was written. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

VI. DISPOSAL OF WASTES

This section is not applicable for the period addressed by this Pollution Report.